THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF TEXTILES (SHRI V. DHANANJAYA KUMAR): (a) to (e) The Government of India is implementing the Workshed-cum-Housing Scheme in the country including the State of Gujarat. However, the State has not availed of the benefit under the Scheme. In the year 2000-01, a sum of Rs. 230.00 lakh was released by the Central Government to cover 2500 weavers who were affected in the wake of the earthquake that hit the State. Since the exact losses could not be gauged due to the large scale devastation and a collapse in the communication system, no district-wise proposals were collected and the assistance was provided as an *ad-hoc* humanitarian measure. No proposal has been received from the State for the current year.

Closure of units in textiles and garment sectors in Gujarat

3172. SHRI AHMED PATEL: Will the Minister of TEXTILES be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is fact that quite a good number of units in textiles and garment sectors particularly in the SSI have closed down in Gujarat in the recent past;

(b) if so, the details thereof for the last three years, year-wise;

(c) the reasons for their closure; and

(d) the steps Government have taken for their revival?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF TEXTILES (SHRI V. DHANANJAYA KUMAR): (a) and (b) The data on closed Small Scale Industries (SSI) is not maintained as it is not compulsory for SSIs to register themselves with State Governments. However, the Reserve Bank of India compiles data on sick SSIs financed by the scheduled commercial banks. As per the latest data compiled by the RBI, the number of sick SSI units in the State of Gujarat as at the end of March, 1998, 1999 and 2000 were 6808, 4170 and 5928 respectively. The data on industry-wise sick SSI units in different States are not compiled by the RBI.

(c) The main reasons for sickness/closure are inadequacy of credit, technological obsolescence, marketing problems, infrastructural constraints, faulty planning, managerial deficiencies, etc.

(d) The Government has taken various measures to facilitate timely identification and rehabilitation of potentially viable sick industries which

inter-alia, includes institutional mechanism in the form of State level Inter Institutional Committees, special rehabilitation cells in banks and State financial institutions and elaborate guidelines issued by the Reserve Bank of India for extending rehabilitation assistance to eligible units. Further, with a view to strengthen the SSI sector and enhance its competitiveness both domestically and globally, the Government has announced a Comprehensive Policy Package which consists of *inter-alia* enhanced fiscal and credit support, better infrastructural and marketing facilities and incentives for technology upgradation.

Separate department for fashion

3173. SHRI RAJNATH SINGH 'SURYA': Will the Minister of TEXTILES be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is a proposal to have a separate department dealing with matters relating to fashion in the Ministry of Textiles; and

(b) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF TEXTILES (SHRI V. DHANANJAYA KUMAR): (a) No, Sir.

(b) Question does not arise.

Assistance for setting up of handicraft complexes in Karnataka

3174. SHRI H.K. JAVARE GOWDA: Will the Minister of TEXTILES be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Central Government has provided assistance for setting up of handicraft complexes in Karnataka State;

(b) if so, the details for the year 1999-2000, 2000-2001 to 2002; and

(c) the details about complexes, places and plans, where these complexes have been set up?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF TEXTILES (SHRI V. DHANANJAYA KUMAR): (a) No, Sir.

(b) and (c) Do not arise.